Rs. 12.5 lakhs, out of which DOS will provide Rs. 9.00 lakhs and the concerned State will provide Rs. 3.50 lakhs. The necessary budget has been provided in the 8th Plan.

(d) While surveys using satellite remote sensing data have been carried out in many countries, to the knowledge of DOS, no other country has carried out intensive, integrated surveys on such a large scale as planned under the Integrated Mission for Sustainable Development. However, seeing the excellent results obtained in India, many countries have expressed their desire to understand this technique during the presentation of the preliminary results in the International Astronautical Federation's Symposium held a few months ago.

Development of Weather Forecast Satellite in the Country

496. SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item appearing in the press recently that Pakistani Scientists have completed the laboratory tests on a model satellite forecast on weather expected to be put into orbit next year;

(b) the steps taken to encourage our scientists to develop such a satellite; and

(c) the expected cost likely to be incurred to develop our own weather forecast satellite indigenously?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI BHUVANESH CHATURVEDI): (a) A Section of the Press has reported that Pakistani scientists have completed laboratory tests on a model of the country's second domestically developed satellite, Badar-2 which is to be put into orbit early next year. Badar-2 will be an improved model of the experimental Badar-1 weather satellite, which was launched from China's Xichang launch site in July 1990. Badar-1 was launched using a Chinese Long March 2E rocket and was being used to improve Pakistan's weather forecast and information system.

(b) India already has launched four INSAT-1 series of satellites and one second generation indigenously built INSAT-2A satellite. Each INSAT-1 and INSAT-2 satellite has the following meteorological payload.

(i) A very High Resolution Radiometer (VHRR) instrument for meteorological earth imaging with visible (0.55-0.75 m) and infrared (10.5-12.5 m) band channels with resolutions of 2.75 and 11 KM, respectively, with half-hourly full earth coverage and sector scan capability. The visible and infrared channel resolutions for INSAT-2A are 2 and 8 KM, respectively.

(ii) A data relay transponder with global receive coverage with a 402.75 MHz earth-to-satellite link for relay of meteorological, hydrological and oceanographic data from unattended land and ocean-based automatic collection-cum-transmission platforms.

INSAT-1D and INSAT-2A satellites currently located at 83 deg E and 74 deg E longitude respectively are providing VHRR imageries, weather forecasting and Data Collection Services. They are also being used for providing locale specific disaster warning service which has resulted in the saving of thousands of lives and livestock in the cyclone hit eastern coast of the country.

(c) All the INSAT's are multipurpose satellites and include state-of-art, meteorological payloads in addition to communication and TV broadcast services, thus meeting the nation's requirements. The cost of each multipurpose INSAT is around Rs. 75 crores.